

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for controlling user access to distributed resources on a data communications network, the method comprising:
receiving a resource request, said request including a rights key credential, said rights key credential comprising:
at least one key to provide access to a resource on said data communications network; and
a resource identifier, said resource identifier comprising a resource server peer group ID and a randomized ID, said resource server peer group ID identifying a resource server peer group, said resource server peer group comprising at least one server that maintains a mapping between a randomized ID and said at least one key; and
providing access to said resource using said at least one key.
2. A method for controlling user access to distributed resources on a data communications network, the method comprising:
receiving a resource request, said request including a rights key credential, said rights key credential comprising:

at least one key, each of said at least one key providing access to at least one resource on said data communications network, each of said at least one resource stored on a separate secure device; and

a resource identifier, said resource identifier comprising a resource server peer group ID and a randomized ID, said resource server peer group ID identifying a resource server peer group, said resource server peer group comprising at least one server that maintains a mapping between a randomized ID and said at least one key; and

providing access to said resource using said at least one key.

3. A program storage device readable by a machine, embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for controlling user access to distributed resources on a data communications network, the method comprising:

receiving a resource request, said request including a rights key credential, said rights key credential comprising:

at least one key to provide access to a resource on said data communications network; and

a resource identifier, said resource identifier comprising a resource server peer group ID and a randomized ID, said resource server peer group ID identifying a resource server peer group, said resource server peer group comprising at least one server that maintains a mapping between a randomized ID and said at least one key; and

providing access to said resource using said at least one key.

4. A program storage device readable by a machine, embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for controlling user access to distributed resources on a data communications network, the method comprising:

receiving a resource request, said request including a rights key credential, said

rights key credential comprising:

at least one key, each of said at least one key providing access to at least one

resource on said data communications network, each of said at least one

resource stored on a separate secure device; and

a resource identifier, said resource identifier comprising a resource server peer

group ID and a randomized ID, said resource server peer group ID

identifying a resource server peer group, said resource server peer group

comprising at least one server that maintains a mapping between a

randomized ID and said at least one key; and

providing access to said resource using said at least one key.

5. An apparatus for controlling user access to distributed resources on a data communications network, the apparatus comprising:

means for receiving a resource request, said request including a rights key credential,

said rights key credential comprising:

at least one key to provide access to a resource on said data communications network; and

a resource identifier, said resource identifier comprising a resource server peer group ID and a randomized ID, said resource server peer group ID identifying a resource server peer group, said resource server peer group comprising at least one server that maintains a mapping between a randomized ID and said at least one key; and

means for providing access to said resource using said at least one key.

6. An apparatus for controlling user access to distributed resources on a data communications network, the apparatus comprising:

means for receiving a resource request, said request including a rights key credential, said rights key credential comprising:

at least one key, each of said at least one key providing access to at least one resource on said data communications network, each of said at least one resource stored on a separate secure device; and

a resource identifier, said resource identifier comprising a resource server peer group ID and a randomized ID, said resource server peer group ID identifying a resource server peer group, said resource server peer group comprising at least one server that maintains a mapping between a randomized ID and said at least one key; and

means for providing access to said resource using said at least one key.